

ABSTRACT

A system and method directed to providing a broadcast/multicast in a circuit-switched network. An exemplary method includes receiving at a first switch a call directed to a called number; determining whether the first switch has an active connection to the called number; if the first switch has an active connection to the called number, merging the call with the active connection; and if the first switch does not have an active connection to the called number, routing the call to a next switch. The process is repeated as necessary until a next switch with an active connection is identified and/or the switch serving the called number is reached. The present invention conserves network resources and increases network efficiency, in part, by not carrying a call any further than is necessary for the caller to participate in a broadcast/multicast.

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